STATISTICAL REPORT

Of the United Presbyterian Congregation of Beverly
in the Presbytery of Hamilton West. *for the Year ending on the 31st of December,* 1851.

☞ One copy to be kept by the Congregation, and another delivered to the Presbytery.

I.	Number of Organized Congregations,	1
II.	Number of Stations within bounds,	0
III.	Average attendance	220
IV.	Number of Members added	20
V.	Number of Members removed	8
VI.	Number of Members on the Roll	133
VII.	Number of Baptisms	16
VIII.	Number in Religious Classes,	24
IX.	Number of Members attending Prayer Meetings,	15
X.	Number of Volumes in Libraries,	0
XI.	Number of Churches,	1
XII.	Is Church Property Deeded?	yes.
XIII.	Amount of Congregational Debt,	£ 72
XIV.	Total Income	£ 130
XV.	Expenditure on—	
1.	Stipend,	£ 100-0-0
2.	Church Property,	10-0-0
3.	Theological Fund	2-2-7½
4.	Synod & Presbytery Funds,	
5.	Synod's Missions,	6-0-0
6.	General Missions,	5-8-11
7.	Contributions to the Poor,	0-0-0
8.	Incidental Expenses	7-5-0
		130-16-6½

(Signed)

Thomas Christie — *Clerk of Congregation.*

Minister.

James M. Queen — *Clerk of Session.*

MINUTES

OF THE

FOURTEENTH, FIFTEENTH AND SIXTEENTH SESSIONS

OF

THE SYNOD

OF THE

United Presbyterian Church in Canada,

HELD IN TORONTO ON THE 30TH OF JULY, 1851; IN HAMILTON ON THE 7TH OF APRIL, 1852; AND IN TORONTO ON THE 16TH OF JUNE, 1852.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE SYNOD.

TORONTO:
PRINTED BY JAMES CLELAND, No. 62 YONGE STREET,
1852.

ROLL OF SYNOD, JULY 30, 1851.

PRESBYTERY OF LONDON.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
George Murray	John Tennant.
James Skinner	Alexander Smith.
Alex. McKenzie	John Williams.
John McLellan	
Charles Fletcher	James Leys.
John J. A. Proudfoot	John Beattie.
John Logie	
William Howden	
John Fraser	

PRESBYTERY OF FLAMBORO'.

Thomas Christie	
James Roy	Robert Christie.
Alexander Ritchie	C. Anderson.
David Caw	A. Colvin.
John Porteous	
A. Drummond	John Dods.
William Christie	James Walker.
A. Ferrier, D.D	John Stark.
Robert Rodgers	John Fairbairn.
	John Young, *Hamilton.*
	John McNaughton, *Esquesing.*

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

William Fraser	Charles Wilson.
John Jennings	William Bell.
James Dick	James Gilmour.
David Coutts	A. Rowand.
Alexander Waddell	Adam Speirs, sen.
James Pringle	James Hunter.

PRESBYTERY OF CANADA EAST.

W. Taylor, D.D	Warden King.
Alexander Lowden	
John Morrison	
Peter Muir	
Walter Scott	

PRESBYTERY OF LANARK.

William Aitken	Adam Fraser.
A. Henderson	William Tait.

PRESBYTERY OF DURHAM.

R. H. Thornton	A. Speirs, jun.
John Cassie	John Lee.
George Lawrence	H. Renwick.
William Ormiston	Wm. Stark.
John Ewing	Wm. Best.
Alexander Kennedy	Lockhart Ormiston.

PRESBYTERY OF WELLINGTON.

William Barrrie	Henry Scott.
Robert Torrance	James Armstrong.
John Duff	Alex. Watt.

MINUTES

OF THE

FOURTEENTH SESSION

OF THE

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, 30*th July*, 1851.
Twelve o'clock, noon.

The Synod of the United Presbyterian Church in Canada, called specially, met, and in the absence of Dr. Taylor, the moderator, the Rev. Alexander Ritchie, the former moderator, took the chair, and constituted the Synod.

SEDERUNT—The Rev. Messrs. Thos. Christie, James Roy, Alexander Ritchie, Alex. Drummond, Wm. Christie, Dr. Ferrier, Wm. Fraser, John Jennings, James Dick, David Coutts, Alexander Waddell, James Pringle, Wm. Aitken, R. H. Thornton, Wm. Ormiston, Wm. Barrie.

The clerk read a resolution passed at the last sederunt of the last ordinary meeting of Synod, at Hamilton, on the 10th of June, of the purport following, viz:—"That in case of a communication in reference to the appointment of a Professor of Theology, being received from the Board of Missions in Scotland, either nominating a person or persons, in their judgment, fit to fill that office, or stating difficulties, in their opinion, in the present state of the reference to them insurmountable, that the moderator be instructed to call a *pro re nata* meeting as soon as possible, to take the whole case into consideration."

In connexion with this resolution, there was read a letter from the Rev. Andrew Somerville, Secretary of the Board of Missions in Scotland, dated 5 Queen Street, Edinburgh, 23rd May, 1851, in the following terms, viz:

OFFICE OF THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
5 *Queen Street, Edinburgh, 23rd May*, 1851.

REV. WILLIAM FRASER,—

Rev. A. Somerville's letter.

My dear Sir,—I duly received your letter with extract minutes of a meeting of your Synod, held at Hamilton, on 2nd April, with a request that they be laid before the Home Synod, stating that having been deprived by death, of the services of the Rev. Wm. Proudfoot, the Synod had resolved to apply to "the Synod in Scotland, to look out and recom-

Rev. A. Somerville's letter.

mend to their choice a person or persons in their view qualified to fill the office of Professor of Theology"—that said Professor have a pastoral charge, and salary of £250 currency, to be paid by the Synod in Canada, and asking aid from the Home Synod for the first year in doing so. These documents were submitted to a meeting of the Committee on Foreign Missions, held on the 6th May, when it was agreed to refer them to the Synod. They were accordingly brought before the Synod on Thursday afternoon, the 15th current, and very cordially entertained. The Rev. Mr. Torrance stated very clearly the wishes and claims of the Church in Canada. Various members expressed their views as to the importance of the measure, and the strong desire felt by the Home Synod to do whatever is necessary for promoting the interests and securing the prosperity of the Mission in Canada. After considerable deliberation, it was agreed to remit the matter to the Board of Missions, carefully to consider it, and with full powers to look out for a suitable person, and to adopt such measures as shall seem best fitted to meet the wishes of your Synod. A meeting of the Board was called and held on the 20th, specially to consider this subject, and in order that a communication might be sent to you, so as to be in time for the meeting of your Synod in June, apprising you of what has been done. After long and anxious discussion, the following points were unanimously agreed upon as in the judgment of the Board calculated, should your Synod assent to them both, to prepare the way for getting the services of a duly qualified person, and for answering the ends of his appointment:—

In the first place, it is their opinion that the salary should be £250 sterling. A man of talents and high standing, such as the Board would wish to procure, can scarcely be expected to leave this country and to come out to Canada on a smaller allowance. But as the Board are aware that your Synod have offered as much as their present resources put it in their power to pay, the Board beg to state, that they are willing, for a reasonable period, to assist you in giving the above salary. It is hoped that your Synod will regard this offer of the Board as a proof, on their part, of sincere desire to obtain for you a man of eminence.

In the second place, it is their opinion, that in the present circumstances of the Church in Canada, it is necessary that the Professor have a pastoral charge. Both in the Synod and in the Board the question was put, whether it would not be advantageous that he should not have a pastoral charge? Now there can be no doubt, that were the congregations of the Synod numerous, and fully supplied with ministers—were there a considerable band of students, and had the Professor opportunities for operating beneficially upon the whole Church, it would be better that he had no pastoral charge, and that his time should be wholly given to superintending the studies of the young men, and to such measures as seem fitted to advance the good of the whole body. But looking at the fewness of the students for some time to come—at the circumstances, that without a charge he would in all probability have less influence in the community—because he would not have opportunities for making his voice heard, and would want the support which a respectable congregation gives—at the fact, that in the present state of your ministerial supply, he would not, without a charge, be so likely to secure the sympathy and support of your congregations—and at the undesirableness of a Professor of Theology, a man given to study, being expected and called upon during the intervals of the Hall, to itinerate among your widely separated congregations—it appeared to the Board requisite that, in the meantime, he have a pastoral charge. In this respect they coincide with the majority of your Synod.

But, in the third place, it is their very decided opinion, that the seat of his charge should be either in Hamilton or in Toronto. He should be in a central and influential position, where he may favorably represent your cause, and both by his public appearances, and by his pen, advance the

Rev. A. Somerville's letter.

interests and further the reputation of your body. It is quite obvious that this would not be the case, and that the important ends for which a Professor is asked from this country would not be gained, were he settled in a small country congregation, or in a distant and back-woods locality.—Did circumstances suit, it would be better were he located in Toronto, the capital city, that being the seat of the Hall. The Board scarcely hope to be able to prevail upon a suitable minister to accept the appointment, unless it be distinctly understood and fixed, that he is to have such a public and central charge, as Hamilton or Toronto offers; and so strongly do the Board feel on this point, as being necessary for the best interests of your Church, that they would be prepared for some time to give a larger sum to support a Professor in such a central locality—till a charge could be formed around him. The Board have instructed me to present these views respectfully for the consideration of your Synod, and to assure you that they have received your communication with the liveliest interest, that they look upon this appointment as a measure of very great importance, and that they will do every thing in their power to find a minister duly qualified by his scholarship, sound views, active habits, and high character, to promote the welfare of your Church, and to have young men to be faithful and successful preachers of the gospel. Inviting a reply from the Synod,

I am, my dear Sir,
Yours very sincerely,
(Signed) ANDREW SOMERVILLE,
Secretary.

The Clerk read also the letter of the Moderator enjoining him to summon this *pro re nata* meeting.

The conduct of Dr. Taylor, the Moderator, in calling this meeting, was sustained.

It was agreed to proceed with the business for which the meeting was called.

On motion of Mr. Barrie, seconded by Mr. Thornton, it was resolved to take up three points specified in Mr. Somerville's letter, *seriatim*, and then in *cumulo*, and decide.

Took up the first proposition in Mr. Somerville's letter.

Resolutions relating to Professor.

On motion of Mr. Thornton, seconded by Mr. Coutts, it was resolved, That the Synod are gratified to find that the sentiments of the Board regarding the Professor's salary, accord generally with those of this body, and while unwilling to pledge beyond what we considered our ability in present circumstances, as formerly expressed, we yet cordially approve of the proposition as now presented by the Board, and feel bound at the same time to thank them for their generous liberality in the offer made.

Entered on the consideration of the second proposition in the letter from the Board of Missions.

On motion of Mr. Aitken, seconded by Mr. Roy, it was resolved, That with reference to the 2nd article of the communication from the Board of Missions, the Synod declare their satisfaction with the views therein expressed, as agreeing with the deliverence of former special meeting.

Took up the third proposition in Mr. Somerville's letter.

On motion of Mr. Thornton, seconded by Mr. Coutts, it was unanimously resolved—That in regard to this proposition, the Synod readily admit the desirableness of a Professor occupying a "public and central position;" they nevertheless deeply regret that a stand should have been taken upon this point, in such a way as to seem to them incompatible with Constitutional and Presbyterial Law—that both places refered to as the seat of a pastoral charge being filled up, they have no ability or desire to move in regard to either, and that if either had been open, they have no right to dictate to the people in their choice of a minister—feeling bound, however, to regard it as a strong way of stating the desirableness of such a location, if the way were, in Providence, open, the Synod assure the Board that there is little probability that a Professor will require to go into the "back-woods" in quest of a charge,—that not a few localities highly favorably for the object in view will be open for any reasonable constitutional, and Christian-like efforts to occupy them.

On motion of Mr. Dick, seconded by Dr. Ferrier, it was resolved—That the Synod, in accordance with the preceding resolutions, respectfully request the Board of Missions of the United Presbyterian Church in Scotland, as soon as possible, to recommend to our choice a person, in their view, qualified to fill the office of Professor.

The Clerk of Synod was instructed to communicate these resolutions to the Secretary of the Board of Missions in Scotland, without delay.

Ordered—That the sum of £2 10s. be paid to the Clerk, for additional expenses in attending special meetings of Synod.

Closed with the benediction.

ALEX. RITCHIE, Moderator, *pro tem.*

WM. FRASER, Synod Clerk.

MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTEENTH SESSION

OF THE

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA.

Hamilton, *7th April*, 1852.
12 *o'clock, noon.*

The Synod of the United Presbyterian Church in Canada, called specially, met this day, and in the absence of the Moderator—Dr. Taylor—the Rev. Mr. Thornton, the only former Moderator present, took the Chair, and constituted the Synod.

The Roll was called and names marked. Sederunt—Rev. Messrs. J. J. A. Proudfoot, Thos. Christie, Wm. Barrie, Robt. Torrance, John Porteous, Alex. Drummond, Wm. Christie, A. Ferrier, D. D., R. H. Thornton, Wm. Fraser, and Robert Christie, Esq., Elder.

Read the letter of Dr. Taylor, the Moderator, enjoining the calling of this meeting of Synod.

Read a communication from the Rev. Andrew Somerville, Secretary of the Board of Missions of the United Presbyterian Church in Scotland, of date 31st Oct., 1851, relating to the nomination of a Professor of Theology for the Church in this country, and also a further communication from the same, relating to the same matter, of date 11th Dec., 1851.

The following is the official part of the former of these communications, viz:

Office of the United Presbyterian Church
5 *Queen Street, Edinburgh*, 21*st Oct.*, 1851.

Rev. William Fraser:

Rev. A. Somerville's letter.

My Dear Sir,—I duly received the resolutions of the *pro re nata* meeting of the Synod of Canada, held on the 31st July, with reference to the proposals respecting a Professor of Theology, submitted in the letter of the Mission Board, of the 23rd May last. These resolutions I laid before the Board. The Board "were gratified to find that the Synod substantially reciprocated their views on the points submitted, and considered that the way is now open for proceeding to look out for a suitable person to fill the important office of Professor of Theology. They instructed the Secretary to acknowledge the receipt of the resolutions of the

Canadian Synod, dated 30th July, and to explain that the third section of the letter 23rd May, was not intended to imply that the Synod, in procuring a pastoral charge for the Theological Professor, either at Hamilton or Toronto, was to *impose* him upon an existing congregation, or to do anything inconsistent with presbyterial or constitutional rule, and that the terms of the letter, when properly examined, will not be found to bear any such construction." In order that, on the subject of location, the Board might be in a condition to propose something definite to the person to whom they were to apply, they adopted the following resolution:—" Agreed that the Professor whom the Board may procure, be directed to go to Toronto, and reside there till he obtains a pastoral charge in a place of which he shall approve, and which he will regard so central as to be fitted for answering the ends of his appointment."

As soon as the Board have obtained the consent of a duly qualified person, to allow his name to be sent for the approbation of your Synod, I shall again communicate with you.

I am, my dear Sir,
Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) ANDREW SOMERVILLE *Secretary.*

The second communication is of the date and purport following, as far as relates expressly to the nomination, by the Board of Missions, of a person to be Professor of Theology to the Church in this country, viz:

OFFICE OF THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
5 *Queen Street, Edinburgh*, 11*th Dec.*, 1851.

REV. WILLIAM FRASER:

Revd. A. Somerville's letter.

MY DEAR SIR,—I beg to send to you the following extracts from the minutes of meetings of the Board of Missions:—

"7*th October*, 1851.

"Took up the subject of a Professor of Theology for the Church in Canada; when upon hearing the report of the sub-committee, and after a full and frank conversation, it was agreed, unanimously, to name to the Synod in Canada, the Rev. Dr. John Taylor, Auchtermuchty, as, in the judgment of this Committee, a person peculiarly fitted, from his many and varied attainments, to discharge the onerous and very responsible duties of this important office. Remitted it to the sub-committee, appointed at the former meeting, to correspond with Dr. Taylor, and to endeavour to gain his consent to allow his name to be sent to the Synod in Canada."

"3*rd December*, 1851.

"The Rev. Dr. Taylor, whom the Committee, at their meeting in October, unanimously nominated as a Professor of Theology for Canada, expressed his views at some length with regard to this important matter, stating that he felt inclined to entertain the proposal favorably, but that there were certain difficulties which still stood in the way. The Committee, in order to remove these difficulties as far as they could, agreed to add a clause to the minute of 7th October, and that the decision stand thus:—'That the Professor whom the Board may procure, be directed to go to Toronto, and reside there till he obtain a pastoral charge in a place of which he shall approve, and which he will regard as so central, as to be fitted for answering the ends of his appointment; and that, as the chief design for which a minister is sought from this country, is the training of young men for the sacred ministry, it is the opinion of this Committee that he should, for some time, devote his labours to the duties of this office, and that the acceptance or the non-acceptance of a pastoral charge should, at a future period, be determined according as circumstances

shall render dutiful.' Dr. Taylor then said that while he was not to be understood as pledging himself definitely, yet he would not object to the Committee's sending out his name for the consideration of the Synod in Canada. The Committee felt specially gratified by this intimation, and instructed the Secretary to make known the nomination of Dr. Taylor to the Synod in Canada, and to request an answer as soon as practicable.

(Signed) ANDREW SOMERVILLE, *Secretary.*

The conduct of Dr. Taylor, the Moderator, in calling this special Meeting of Synod, was then cordially approved.

On motion of Mr. Barrie, seconded by Mr. Thomas Christie, it was

Resolved—That the Moderator and Clerk be appointed, and they are hereby appointed, a Committee to draw up resolutions cordially accepting the proposal of the Mission Board in Scotland, and most earnestly request and entreat the Rev. John Taylor, M. D., of Auchtermuchty, to accept the call and invitation of this Synod to assume the office of Professor of Theology to the Church in this country. The resolutions to be submitted to the Synod at its next Sederunt.

At the request of the Moderator, the Rev. Thos. Christie was added to the Committee.

Adjourned, to meet in this place at 4 o'clock, P. M.

Closed with prayer.

HAMILTON, 7*th April*, 1852.
4 *o'clock*, P. M.

The Synod of the United Presbyterian Church in Canada, met, according to adjournment, and was constituted by the Rev. R. H. Thornton, Moderator.

Sederunt as before.

The Clerk reported from the committee appointed at the former Sederunt, to prepare resolutions upon the communications respecting a Professor, as follows, viz.:

Resolutions regarding Professor.

Resolved—1. That this Synod feel greatly encouraged and cheered by the evidences before them of the deep interest which the Synod and Board of Missions in Scotland, have manifested in regard to the Canadian Church, and do further, most cordially render thanks for the activity, persevering diligence, and judgment evinced in the matter of the Professorship; and especially in now bringing it, as they hope, to so desirable an issue.

2. That the nomination by the Board of the Rev. Dr. John Taylor, of Auchtermuchty, as Professor, being most cordially approved of by this Synod, they do forthwith unanimously call and invite him to Canada in that capacity.

3. That in the sentiments of the Board on this important matter, as embodied in the communications of the Secretary, this Synod perfectly concur.

4. That the Board of Missions be respectfully requested kindly to aid this Synod in carrying out this matter, by presenting to Dr. Taylor the unanimous and hearty call of this Synod to be their Professor of Theology, their urgent request that he will accept of the said call, and their

Canadian Synod, dated 30th July, and to explain that the third section of the letter 23rd May, was not intended to imply that the Synod, in procuring a pastoral charge for the Theological Professor, either at Hamilton or Toronto, was to *impose* him upon an existing congregation, or to do anything inconsistent with presbyterial or constitutional rule, and that the terms of the letter, when properly examined, will not be found to bear any such construction." In order that, on the subject of location, the Board might be in a condition to propose something definite to the person to whom they were to apply, they adopted the following resolution:—" Agreed that the Professor whom the Board may procure, be directed to go to Toronto, and reside there till he obtains a pastoral charge in a place of which he shall approve, and which he will regard so central as to be fitted for answering the ends of his appointment."

As soon as the Board have obtained the consent of a duly qualified person, to allow his name to be sent for the approbation of your Synod, I shall again communicate with you.

I am, my dear Sir,
Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) ANDREW SOMERVILLE *Secretary.*

The second communication is of the date and purport following, as far as relates expressly to the nomination, by the Board of Missions, of a person to be Professor of Theology to the Church in this country, viz:

OFFICE OF THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
5 *Queen Street, Edinburgh*, 11*th Dec.*, 1851.

REV. WILLIAM FRASER:

Revd. A. Somerville's letter.

MY DEAR SIR,—I beg to send to you the following extracts from the minutes of meetings of the Board of Missions:—

"*7th October*, 1851.

"Took up the subject of a Professor of Theology for the Church in Canada; when upon hearing the report of the sub-committee, and after a full and frank conversation, it was agreed, unanimously, to name to the Synod in Canada, the Rev. Dr. John Taylor, Auchtermuchty, as, in the judgment of this Committee, a person peculiarly fitted, from his many and varied attainments, to discharge the onerous and very responsible duties of this important office. Remitted it to the sub-committee, appointed at the former meeting, to correspond with Dr. Taylor, and to endeavour to gain his consent to allow his name to be sent to the Synod in Canada."

"*3rd December*, 1851.

"The Rev. Dr. Taylor, whom the Committee, at their meeting in October, unanimously nominated as a Professor of Theology for Canada, expressed his views at some length with regard to this important matter, stating that he felt inclined to entertain the proposal favorably, but that there were certain difficulties which still stood in the way. The Committee, in order to remove these difficulties as far as they could, agreed to add a clause to the minute of 7th October, and that the decision stand thus:—'That the Professor whom the Board may procure, be directed to go to Toronto, and reside there till he obtain a pastoral charge in a place of which he shall approve, and which he will regard as so central, as to be fitted for answering the ends of his appointment; and that, as the chief design for which a minister is sought from this country, is the training of young men for the sacred ministry, it is the opinion of this Committee that he should, for some time, devote his labours to the duties of this office, and that the acceptance or the non-acceptance of a pastoral charge should, at a future period, be determined according as circumstances

shall render dutiful.' Dr. Taylor then said that while he was not to be understood as pledging himself definitely, yet he would not object to the Committee's sending out his name for the consideration of the Synod in Canada. The Committee felt specially gratified by this intimation, and instructed the Secretary to make known the nomination of Dr. Taylor to the Synod in Canada, and to request an answer as soon as practicable.

(Signed) ANDREW SOMERVILLE, *Secretary.*

The conduct of Dr. Taylor, the Moderator, in calling this special Meeting of Synod, was then cordially approved.

On motion of Mr. Barrie, seconded by Mr. Thomas Christie, it was

Resolved—That the Moderator and Clerk be appointed, and they are hereby appointed, a Committee to draw up resolutions cordially accepting the proposal of the Mission Board in Scotland, and most earnestly request and entreat the Rev. John Taylor, M. D., of Auchtermuchty, to accept the call and invitation of this Synod to assume the office of Professor of Theology to the Church in this country. The resolutions to be submitted to the Synod at its next Sederunt.

At the request of the Moderator, the Rev. Thos. Christie was added to the Committee.

Adjourned, to meet in this place at 4 o'clock, P. M.

Closed with prayer.

HAMILTON, *7th April*, 1852.
4 o'clock, P. M.

The Synod of the United Presbyterian Church in Canada, met, according to adjournment, and was constituted by the Rev. R. H. Thornton, Moderator.

Sederunt as before.

The Clerk reported from the committee appointed at the former Sederunt, to prepare resolutions upon the communications respecting a Professor, as follows, viz.:

Resolutions regarding Professor.

Resolved—1. That this Synod feel greatly encouraged and cheered by the evidences before them of the deep interest which the Synod and Board of Missions in Scotland, have manifested in regard to the Canadian Church, and do further, most cordially render thanks for the activity, persevering diligence, and judgment evinced in the matter of the Professorship; and especially in now bringing it, as they hope, to so desirable an issue.

2. That the nomination by the Board of the Rev. Dr. John Taylor, of Auchtermuchty, as Professor, being most cordially approved of by this Synod, they do forthwith unanimously call and invite him to Canada in that capacity.

3. That in the sentiments of the Board on this important matter, as embodied in the communications of the Secretary, this Synod perfectly concur.

4. That the Board of Missions be respectfully requested kindly to aid this Synod in carrying out this matter, by presenting to Dr. Taylor the unanimous and hearty call of this Synod to be their Professor of Theology, their urgent request that he will accept of the said call, and their

hope that he will make every possible effort, consistent with his own convenience and comfort, to be speedily with them.

This report was unanimously and cordially adopted, and the Synod did, and do resolve in terms thereof.

On motion, it was further

Resolved—That this Synod regret that former correspondence should have led to any misunderstanding on either side, about the details of an arrangement, in the general character of which there was so perfect an agreement; and as they formerly felt bound to vindicate an important principle, which they feared was in danger, they now, from the explanations received, as heartily express their conviction of the desire, on the part of the Board, always to respect that principle.

Instructed the Clerk to transmit forthwith the above proceedings and resolutions of this Synod to the Board of Missions in Scotland, and to give such further explanations as to the time at which this meeting has been held, and as respects the causes which have led to so small an attendance on this occasion, as, in his judgment, may seem necessary.

Closed with prayer.

R. H. THORNTON, *Moderator, pro tem.*

WM. FRASER, *Synod Clerk.*

SIXTEENTH SESSION.

ROLL OF SYNOD, JUNE 16, 1852.

☞ *The figures mark the Sederunts at which the Members were present.*

PRESBYTERY OF LONDON.

MINISTERS.	SEDERUNTS.	ELDERS.	SEDERUNTS.
George Murray.....			
James Skinner.....	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	Wm. Wood.....	
		Wm. Smibbert.	
Alexander Mackenzie			
John McLellan.....			
John J. A. Proudfoot			
John Logie			
William Howden			
John Fraser.....			

PRESBYTERY OF FLAMBORO'.

Thomas Christie.....	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	Steven Nisbet....	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
Alexander Ritchie ...			
David Caw	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Wm. Telfer.....	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
John Porteous.....		And'w McKnight	
Alex. Drummond....	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	D. McNaughton.	
William M. Christie.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	Dr. Aberdein.....	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Andrew Ferrier, D.D.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	John Stark	
Robert Rodgers	1 2 3 4 5	John Hackney....	
John Hogg*.....	1 2 3 4 5 6 7.....	James Henderson	
John McClure*.....	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	John Dougan.....	
.....	.....	Robert Christie...	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

William Fraser.....	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	Charles Wilson...	1
John Jennings.....	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	Wm. Bell.....	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 . 10 11
James Dick.....	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	Charles Pollok ...	
David Coutts.....	1 2 3 4 5 6 8 9 10 ...	Andrew Buckham	1 2 3 4 5
Alexander Waddell..	2 3 4 5 6	James Balmer.....	2
James Pringle.....	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11.....		. 2
Thomas Dickson*....	1 2 3 4 5 6 7		2

PRESBYTERY OF CANADA EAST.

William Taylor, D.D.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	Warden King	
Alexander Lowden...	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	John Morrison ...	
John Morrison	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Thos. Rutherford	
Peter Muir		George Dauskin.	
Walter Scott.....	1 2 3 4.....	John McOuat	

PRESBYTERY OF LANARK.

William Aitken	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	Adam Foster.....	
Alex'r Henderson....			

PRESBYTERY OF DURHAM.

R. H. Thornton	1 2 3 4 5 6 . 8 9	Adam Speirs..	2 3 4
John Cassie.....	2 3 4 5 6 7		
George Lawrence.....	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	George Wylie.....	2 3 4
William Ormiston....	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 ...	Andrew Milligan.	2 3 4 5 6
John Ewing.....	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Thomas Best.....	2 3 4 5
Alex'r Kennedy	1 2 3 4 5 6	Lockhart Ormiston	
Daniel McCurdy*....	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11		

PRESBYTERY OF WELLINGTON.

Robert Torrance.....	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	Jas. Armstrong...	
William Barrie	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 ... 11	Henry Scott	
John Duff	1 2 3 4 5 .... 8 9 10 11	Alexander Watt.	

MINUTES

OF THE

SIXTEENTH SESSION

OF THE

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA,

I. SEDERUNT.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY,
June 16, 1852, 7 *o'clock, P. M.*

The Synod of the United Presbyterian Church in Canada, met, and after Sermon by the Rev. William Taylor, Moderator, from Prov. xi. 30, latter clause, was constituted.

The names of Ministers on the Roll were called and marked. (See Table of attendance.)

Presbytery Reports. Flamboro' Presbytery.

The Presbytery of Flamboro' reported that the following changes had occurred within their bounds during the past year, viz: on the 13th August, 1851, they inducted the Rev. John Hogg to the Church in Hamilton; and on the 28th April, 1852, they ordained Mr. John McClure over the Church in St. Catherines. They also reported that it had pleased God, in his Providence, to remove by death, their much respected brother, the Rev. James Roy, on the 13th of May last; and further, that they had licensed Messrs. John Scott and William Cavan, the former on the 12th July, 1851, and the latter on the 13th January, 1852, to preach the everlasting Gospel.

Toronto Presbytery.

The Presbytery of Toronto reported that they had ordained Mr. Thomas Dickson to the pastoral charge of the United Presbyterian Congregation of Caledon, on the 27th day of June, 1851.

Durham Presbytery.

The Presbytery of Durham reported that on the 3rd of May, they had inducted the Rev. Daniel McCurdy into the pastoral charge of the congregation of Amherst Island.

Names added to and taken from Roll.

The names of the Rev. Messrs. John Hogg, John McClure, Thomas Dickson, and Daniel McCurdy, having been added to the rolls of their respective Presbyteries, were, thereupon, added to the roll of Synod; and the name of the Rev. James Roy being taken from the roll of the Presbytery of Flamboro', was taken from the roll of Synod.

Elders from London.

Mr. Skinner gave the names of two elders, as being deputed to be members of this Synod, by the two congregations under his pastoral charge. Upon this a question arose as to the constitutionality of a single pastoral charge, though consisting of two congregations, being represented in Synod by two ruling elders together with the pastor.

It was moved by Mr. Jennings, and seconded by Mr. Thornton,

Mr. Jenning's Motion.

That the subject of two or more congregations under the charge of one minister, sending each one Elder to Presbytery or Synod, be considered by Committee, as regards the law of this Church and the use and wont of the Church, and that the Rev. Dr. Ferrier and the Rev. Thomas Christie, be such Committee; to report at 9 o'clock, to morrow morning.

It was moved in amendment by the Rev. Mr. Drummond, and seconded by Mr. Kennedy,

Mr. Drummond's Amendment.

That the names of the Ruling Elders given in by Clerks of Presbyteries. be received and entered on the Roll, and leave the question of the competency of two or more congregations, under one pastor, sending each an elder, to be taken up in the regular way.

Amendment carried.

The amendment, being first put, was carried.

Messrs. Hogg and Kennedy were appointed to conduct the devotional exercises of the Synod, to morrow morning.

Adjournod to meet at 9 o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Closed with the benediction.

II. SEDERUNT.

TORONTO, THURSDAY,
June 17, 1852, 9 *o'clock, A.M.*

The Synod of the United Presbyterian Church in Canada, met, and was constituted by Dr. Taylor, Moderator.

The Roll was completed, and then called and marked.

Report of Lond'n Presbytery.

The Presbytery of London reported that on the 1st of October last, the Rev. Charles Fletcher had demitted the charge of the congregation of Goderich, and that his name had been taken from the Roll of Presbytery—it was therefore taken from the Roll of Synod.

Minutes of Special Meetings read.

Read the minutes of the Special Meeting of Synod held in this place, on Wednesday, the 30th of July, 1851; and also the minutes of the Special Meeting, held in the city of Hamilton, on Wednesday, the 7th of April last; all of which minutes were sustained.

Letter to Board of Missions.

Read the letter of the Clerk of Synod to the Secretary of the Board of Missions in Scotland, accompanying the minutes of the special meeting in April.

Moderator elected.

The Rev. Andrew Ferrier, D.D., was now chosen Moderator.

Devotional Exercises.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Messrs. Kennedy and Hogg.

Committee of Bills and Overtures.

Appointed the Rev. Messrs. Skinner, Thomas Christie, Dick, Lowden, Aitken, Thornton, and Torrance, a Committee of Bills and Overtures, Mr. Skinner, Convener. Instructed said Committee to report at next Sederunt.

Committee on Presbytery Minutes.

Appointed the following Committees to examine the minutes of Presbyteries, viz:—

Messrs. Caw and Cassie, to examine the minutes of the Presbytery of London.

Messrs. Coutts and Morrison, the minutes of the Presbytery of Flamboro'

Messrs. Drummond and Scott, the minutes of the Presbytery of Toronto.

Messrs. Pringle and Ormiston, the minutes of the Presbytery of Canada East.

Messrs. Wm. M. Christie, and McClure, the minutes of the Presbytery of Lanark.

Messrs. Barrie and Dickson, the minutes of the Presbytery of Durham.

Messrs. Kennedy and Rodgers, the minutes of the Presbytery of Wellington.

Committee on Accounts.

Appointed Mr. McCurdy and Dr. Aberdein to examine the accounts of the Synod's Treasurer, and of the Treasurer of the Mission Grant of the Home Synod.

Deputation from Congregational Union.

Mr. Jennings informed the Synod that the Congregational Union of Canada West, had appointed the Rev. Messrs. Roaf and Lightbody, a Deputation to wait upon this Synod.

It was agreed to invite the attendance of the Deputation at 3 o'clock, this afternoon.

Messrs. Skinner and Torrance, together with the Moderator, were appointed to reply to the Deputation on behalf of this Synod.

Lotter from Mr. Somerville. Appointment of Divinity Professor.

Read a letter from the Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions, in Scotland, in relation to Dr. John Taylor's appointment to be Professor of Theology. Read, also, a letter from Dr. Taylor, announcing his acceptance of the call of this Synod to be Professor.

Adjourned to meet here at 3 o'clock.

Closed with the benediction.

III. SEDERUNT.

TORONTO, THURSDAY,
June 17, 1852, 3 *o'clock, P. M.*

The Synod of the United Presbyterian Church in Canada, met, and was constituted by the Rev. Dr. Ferrier, Moderator.

The Roll was called, and the minutes of last Sederunt were read and sustained.

Report of Committee of Bills and Overtures.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported, and recommended that the business of the Synod be taken up in the following order, viz:—

The business on the minutes, which is as follows:—

I. Reports of Presbyteries on Draft of DEED for Congregational Property.

II. Reports of Presbyteries on the Literary Course to be pursued by Students of Divinity.

III. Report of Committee on the Jamaica and Nova Scotia Correspondence.

IV. Report of Committee for the distribution of Preachers.

V. Report of the London Presbytery respecting the labours of Mr. Andrew Kennedy.

VI. Reports of Presbyteries respecting ministers receiving aid from the Mission Fund.

VII. Report of Presbyteries respecting the inspection of Students of Theology.

VIII. Overture from the Presbytery of Wellington on the Clergy Reserves and Rectories.

IX. Overture from Mr. Coutts.

X. Memorial from the Rev. Andrew Kennedy.

XI. Communication from the Committee of the Sabbath Reformation Society.

Mr. Dickson, Preacher, received.

The Committee further recommended that the credentials of Mr. William Dickson, preacher, be first taken up, with a view to his reception as a preacher in our Church in this country.

Read Mr. Dickson's testimonial from the Secretary of the Board of Missions in Scotland.

It was unanimously and cordially agreed to receive Mr. Dickson as a Preacher of the Gospel in the United Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Reports of Presbyteries on Deed.

The Reports of Presbyteries on the Draft of DEED for Congregational Property was called for:—

The Presbytery of Canada East reported that the Draft submitted to them is totally inapplicable to the congregations under their inspection. No Reports were received from the other Presbyteries.

Mr. Drummond's Motion on.

It was moved by Mr. Drummond, seconded by Mr. Pringle,

That, inasmuch as some of the Presbyteries have not considered the matter, agree not to enter on the consideration of it at present, but remit it again to those Presbyteries and Sessions that have not reported, and request them to enter on the consideration of it and report at next meeting of Synod.

Amendment by Mr. Aitken.

It was moved in amendment by Mr. Aitken, seconded by Mr. Ormiston,

That the Synod having heard the reports of Presbyteries, and taken into account the powers given by the public acts of this Province, agreed to proceed no further, but dismiss the whole matter, leaving it to particular Sessions and Congregations to determine for themselves in what manner Congregational Property shall be vested.

Amendment carried.

The amendment being first put, was carried.

Thanks to Committee.

The thanks of Synod were given to the Committee for their diligence in this matter.

Reports of Presbyteries on Literary Course of Students.

Called for the Reports of Presbyteries on the Literary Course to be pursued by Students in Divinity.

A report was received from the Presbytery of Canada East. There were no other formal reports.

Committee to meet with Professor Taylor.

It was agreed that, as the Rev. Dr. Taylor, our Professor of Theology, is expected to be with us in a few days, the Committee be reappointed to consider this matter, and that they be instructed to meet with the Professor and to advise with him as to the arrangement of the literary course to be pursued by the Students of Divinity. The Rev. Thomas Christie and Mr. Ormiston, were added to the Committee.—Rev. Mr. Jennings, Convener.

Adjourned to meet at 6½ o'clock, P. M.

Closed with the benediction.

IV. SEDERUNT.

TORONTO, THURSDAY,
June 17, 1852, 6½ *o'clock, P. M.*

The Synod of the United Presbyterian Church in Canada, met, and was constituted by the Rev. Dr. Ferrier, Moderator.

The Roll was called, and the minutes of last Sederunt were read and sustained.

Accounts read.

The Accounts of the Rev. Thomas Christie, the Treasurer of the Mission Grant from Scotland, were read, as were also the Accounts of Robert Christie, Esq., the Synod's Treasurer.

Reports on Accounts. Mr. McCurdy reported from the Committee to examine those Accounts, that they had attended to that duty; that having examined the books of the Rev. Thomas Christie, they find a balance in his hands of £42 12s. 3d; and that having examined the books of Robert Christie, Esq., they find a balance in his hands, on account of the Mission Fund, of £352 9s. 5½d. They find also a balance due the Treasurer on account of the Synod and Theological Institute Fund, of £11 16s. 8½d.

Reports adopted. The report was received and adopted, and the accounts approved.

Missions. Entered on the consideration of the state of our Missions. The Rev. Mr. Torrance, the Convener, read the report of the Missions' Committee.

Addresses on. Addresses on the cause of Missions were delivered by Messrs. Dick and Thornton.

Appointment of Messrs, Skinner and Ormiston. Messrs. Skinner and Ormiston, were appointed to deliver addresses on Missions at next meeting of Synod.

After engaging in praise, the Synod adjourned, to meet tomorrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Closed with prayer.

V. SEDERUNT.

TORONTO, FRIDAY,
June 18, 1852, 8 *o'clock, A. M.*

The Synod met, and was constituted by the Rev. Dr. Ferrier, Moderator.

The Roll was called, and the minutes of last Sederunt were read and sustained.

Consideration of missions continued. Continued the consideration of the state of Missions in this country, which was commenced last night.

Resolution on Report. On motion of Mr. Fraser, seconded by Mr. Ormiston, it was unanimously

Resolved—That the able and interesting Report received last night from our Committee on Missions, be adopted, and that the thanks of the Synod be given to the Committee for their diligence and zeal in the discharge of the trust reposed in them.

Ordered that the Report of the Committee be printed in the appendix to the minutes, and the Editor of the *Canadian Presbyterian Magazine* be requested to insert it in that periodical.

Deputation from Congregational Union. The Rev. Messrs. Roaf and Lightbody, the Deputation from the Congregational Union of Canada West, were introduced to the Synod by Mr. Jennings, and welcomed by the Moderator.

The Reverend the Deputies, severally addressed the Synod, expressing the high respect and brotherly regard of the religious body with which they were connected, for this Church.

Reply. Messrs. Skinner and Torrance addressed the Deputation on behalf of the Synod.

The Synod joined in singing Ps. cxxxii. 13–18, and at the request of the Moderator, the Rev. Thomas Christie engaged in prayer.

The Moderator read the 13th chapter of the first epistle to the Corinthians, and at his request the Rev. Mr. Roaf led in prayer.

On motion of Mr. Jennings, Messrs. Roaf and Lightbody were invited to correspond and take their seats in Court.

Resumed the business of Missions, interrupted by the reception of the Deputation.

Motions on Missions. Several motions were presented, and after hearing the opinions of the members at some length, those motions were merged in the following:—

Moved by Mr. Jennings, and seconded by Mr. Thornton,

Committee to Draft Resolutions on Supply and Supplement. That looking at the similarity as well as the diversity existing between the motions now before the Court, the Synod defer taking the question on these motions; appoint Dr. Taylor, together with Messrs. Ormiston and Torrance, a Committee to consider former laws of Synod regarding Home Missionary operations, and instruct said Committee to take the motions now before the Synod into consideration, and draw up a general motion or a set of Resolutions on the whole subject. The Committee to report at next Sederunt.

This motion was adopted and the Committee appointed in terms thereof.

Adjourned to meet at 2 o'clock.

Closed with the benediction

VI. SEDERUNT.

TORONTO, FRIDAY,
June 18, 1852, 2 *o'clock, P. M.*

The Synod met, and was constituted by the Rev. Dr. Ferrier, Moderator.

The Roll was called, and the minutes of the last Sederunt read and sustained.

Reports on Minutes of Presbytery of Flamboro'. Mr. Coutts reported from the Committee to examine the minutes of the Presbytery of Flamboro', that no minute book from that Presbytery was presented to the Committee, owing to the recent demise of the former Clerk, the Rev. James Roy. The report was received and the excuse was sustained.

Minutes of Durham Presbytery. Mr. Barrie reported from the Committee to examine the minutes of the Presbytery of Durham, that no minutes were presented to them. The explanation of the Clerk, why the minutes were not laid before the Committee, was sustained.

Minutes of London Presbytery. Mr. Caw reported from the Committee to examine the minutes of the Presbytery of London, that no minutes were presented to them. The excuse of the Presbytery of London for the absence of the minutes was sustained.

Minutes of TorontoPresbytery. Mr. Drummond reported from the Committee to examine the minutes of the Presbytery of Toronto, that they had examined those minutes and found them correctly kept, and the business regularly transacted with the exception of a reference to a rule of Synod, at the bottom of the second page of minutes for 5th August, 1851, they are of opinion that it clashes with the Synod's minutes, (see page 161) and that the last clause on the above page of Presbytery above mentioned, commencing with "in accordance," &c., should be expunged. The report was received and adopted.

Minutes of Lanark Presbytery. Mr. McClure reported from the Committee to examine the minutes of the Presbytery of Lanark, that no minute book was forthcoming from that Presbytery on account of the absence of the Clerk of Presbytery. The reason given for the absence of the minutes was sustained.

Report on Supply and Contribution. Mr. Torrance reported from the Committee appointed under the Resolution passed at the close of last Sederunt, as follows, viz:—

Your Committee report, that on referring to the laws that have been passed to guide the Missions' Committee in the transaction of their business, they find that all applications for aid from weak congregations must be submitted to them through Presbyteries; that they have power to obtain by letter, or special deputation of one of their number, in conjunction with a member of Presbytery if advisable, such information as they may judge necessary: and to call upon each Presbytery to furnish statistical reports of the congregations and vacancies which are in their bounds.

Your Commmittee further recommend the following Resolutions for the adoption of the Synod:—

1. That it be a law of this Church that each congregation shall pay for each Sabbath of a preacher's services, the sum of £1 10s., and that it be an instruction to Presbyteries and the Mission Committee to have respect to this in granting supply, and that said supply shall always be regulated by the amount contributed by the congregation or station requiring supply.

2. That no station within five miles of an existing congregation, shall receive supply of preaching from the Synod unless they promise to bear the entire expenses.

3. That no station in ordinary circumstances, shall receive supply longer than one year, unless they raise the sum required by Synod for each day's supply.

4. That the existing law of Synod, page 162, No. 1 of printed minutes, be enforced in all the Presbyteries, to wit: (1.) "That it shall be a law of this Church, that under the direction of their respective Presbyteries, ministers, whose congregations receive aid from the Synod Fund, shall perform missionary labour in the various vacancies and stations in their Presbyteries, in some proportion to the amount received from the Fund, at the discretion and on the call of the several Presbyteries, and that they report the amount of such missionary labour to their Presbyteries in detail, and that the Presbyteries report the same to the Synod at their annual meeting."

5. That this Committee are of opinion that the aid granted to settled congregations should decrease in some proportion from year to year, but as it seems impossible to lay down any precise rules, the matter is left to the discretion of the Mission Committee, in conjunction with the Presbytery, and it is at the same time earnestly recommended to their attention.

The Report, as above, was unanimously adopted.

Mission Committee. The Synod resolved that the following be the members of the Mission Committee for this year, viz: The Rev. Messrs. Jennings, Torrance, Hogg, and Thomas Christie, Treasurer, (*ex-officio*,) together with Robert Christie, Esq., the Synod's Treasurer, (*ex-officio*,) and Thomas Armstrong, Esq., and that the Committee be empowered to invite the Rev. Dr. Taylor, Professor of Theology, on his arrival, to act as a member thereof. Revd. Mr. Torrance, Convener.

Mr. Kennedy's case. Called for the report of the Presbytery of London, with reference to the labours of Mr. Andrew Kennedy within their bounds.

Mr. Skinner's Report. Mr. Skinner made a verbal report on behalf of the Presbytery.

Committee of the whole. The Synod resolved itself into a Committee of the whole house, on the case of Mr. Kennedy. Mr. Caw in the chair.

After sitting some time, the Synod resumed.

Adjourned, to meet at 7 o'clock.

Closed with the benediction.

VII. SEDERUNT.

TORONTO, FRIDAY.
June 18, 1852, *7 o'clock, P. M.*

The Synod met and was constituted by Dr. Ferrier, Moderator.

The Roll was called, and the Minutes of last Sederunt were read and approved.

Read a letter from the Rev. Andrew Kennedy.

The Synod agreed unanimously—

Resolution. That the Synod having, at former Sessions, had the case of the Rev. Andrew Kennedy under discussion, and having experienced much difficulty in forming a decision that should unite due consideration for Mr. Kennedy with proper regard to the funds of the Church—the case having come up once more—it seems necessary for all interests concerned, that it should now—painful as the course to be proposed may be to the feelings of a respected brother—be definitely concluded:

Be it therefore Resolved—That as certain physical causes—implying nothing derogatory to Mr. Kennedy's moral character and respectability—tend to prevent his usefulness and acceptability as a preacher—it is expedient that he be no longer continued as a preacher under Synodical control—but, without prejudice to his status as an ordained minister—be loosed from all obligations of ministerial service to this Church, other than such as may be voluntarily tendered on his part and accepted by a Presbytery or Congregation:

Further—That as Mr. Kennedy's advanced age, long services, and general circumstances, render it highly desirable that he should receive (*and give him a certain claim on?*) a certain sum annually from the Mission Fund—the Mission Committee be accordingly instructed to communicate concerning his case with the Board of Missions in Scotland—and respectfully to urge that an annual grant be allowed to Mr. Kennedy to such an amount as said Board shall deem proper.

Minutes of Canada East.

The Committee to examine the minutes of the Presbytery of Canada East, reported that they had examined the minutes of the said Presbytery, and found them kept in a regular and orderly manner.

Reports on Ministers performing Miss. labours.

Called for the Reports of Presbyteries, on the employment in Missionary labour of Ministers of congregations receiving aid from the Mission Fund.

No Reports were presented.

Resolution.

The Synod expressed strong disapprobation of the neglect, on the part of Presbyteries, in relation to this matter—enjoined that proper diligence be employed in time to come; and that the Reports on this subject be duly made by the several Presbyteries at next meeting of Synod.

Closed with prayer.

VIII. SEDERUNT.

TORONTO, MONDAY,
June 21, 1852, 6½ *o'clock, P. M.*

The Synod of the United Presbyterian Church in Canada, met, and was constituted by the Rev. Andrew Ferrier, D.D., Moderator.

The Roll was called, and the minutes of last Sederunt were read and sustained.

Letter from Nova Scotia.

Read and received a letter from the Synod of the Presbyterian Church in Nova Scotia.

The Synod were highly gratified with the intelligence which the letter contained. Regarding the Church there as participating in a common origin, and as holding the same doctrines and order, they cannot but rejoice in her prosperity. Considering the raising up of a native ministry as of primary importance, if not of essential necessity to the advancement of the Church in any country, they are much pleased to be informed of the efficiency of the Theological Seminary of the Church in that Province, and of the encouraging measure of success with which it has been crowned. The Synod further desire to join with their brethren in gratitude to

the Head of the Church, for the extension and success of their missionary operations at home, and while they lament the difficulties which have occurred in their foreign field, rejoice with them in the favourable aspects, in many respects, presented by their mission to the island of Aneiteum: and lastly, they desire most cordially to reciprocate the sympathies and fraternal regards of the Church in Nova Scotia.

Instruction to the Clerk respecting.

Instructed the Clerk to furnish a copy of the said letter to the Editor of the *Canadian Presbyterian Magazine*, with the request of Synod that it be published in that periodical.

Committee of Correspondence.

The Committee formerly appointed to correspond with the Churches in Jamaica and Nova Scotia, consisting of Messrs. Thornton, Jennings, and Dick, were re-appointed, and were instructed to prepare letters to be transmitted to these Churches with all convenient despatch, and to report copies of the communications to the Synod at its next meeting.—Mr. Fraser was added to the Committee.

Reports on Inspection of Students.

Called for the Reports of Presbyteries on the inspection of Students of Theology under their care.

The Presbytery of Toronto reported as follows, viz:—

Report of TorontoPresbytery.

In compliance with the Resolution of Synod respecting the inspection of Students, the Toronto Presbytery report that at their regular meeting in August last, they agreed "that part of the business at each regular meeting shall be the examination of, and hearing exercises from, those Students that may be under their inspection." In accordance with this resolution they had at three meetings examined and heard exercises from Messrs. McDonald and Dunbar. Also they had at the same meeting in August, appointed a Committee to meet with the Students at least once during the intervals of meetings of Presbytery, to examine the Students on part of the exercises prescribed by the Presbytery; this committee had also met three times with the students, and had examined them as directed.

JAMES DICK, *P. C.*

Flamboro', no Report.

In consequence of the absence of the Clerk of the Presbytery of Flamboro', their report was not in readiness to be presented.

Report of Durham Presbytery.

The Presbytery of Durham reported that they had under their charge during the past year, the three following students: Gilbert Tweedie, John G. Carruthers, and John Fotheringhame, and that they had frequently met with them at regular intervals, and examined them both extensively and thoroughly in the subjects assigned, and that their proficiency had been alike creditable to themselves and gratifying to the Presbytery.

R. H. THORNTON, *P. C.*

The Presbyteries of London, Canada East, Lanark, and Wellington, had not had any Students under their inspection.

Overture from Presbytery of Wellington.

Read and received an Overture from the Presbytery of Wellington of the following tenor, viz:—

ERAMOSA, 9*th March*, 1852.

The Presbytery of Wellington met and was constituted, *inter alia*. Came up for consideration the propriety and present duty of drawing up

and publishing a manifesto against the Clergy Reserves and Rectories. Messrs. Barrie and Torrance were appointed a Committee for that purpose, and likewise to overture the Synod at its first ordinary meeting on the same subject, and the Synod are hereby respectfully overtured accordingly—requested to take the matter into their most serious consideration and give such a deliverance as they shall judge called for.

Extracted from minutes of Presbytery by

ROBERT TORRANCE, *P. C.*

Overture adopt'd

The Overture was adopted, and in terms thereof, Messrs. Barrie, Torrance, and Ormiston, together with Dr. Taylor, were appointed a Committee to draw up a Memorial upon the whole subject, and to report to morrow. Mr. Barrie, Convener.

Adjourned to meet at 9 o'clock, to-morrow.

Closed with the benediction.

IX. SEDERUNT.

TORONTO, TUESDAY,
June 22, 1852, 9 *o'clock, A. M.*

The Synod met, and was constituted by the Rev. Dr. Ferrier, Moderator.

Overture from Mr. Coutts.

Read and received an Overture from Mr. Coutts, respecting Rules of Order for conducting the business of Synod, of the following tenor, viz:

Overture to Synod, 1852.

Whereas it has been found expedient to have "Special Rules of Order," in conducting the business of this Synod, and whereas the Rules formerly proposed have been only in part adopted, and that only *ad interim*, in the Session of 1848; and as inconveniences have in consequence arisen, or may arise, it is overtured that the Synod appoint a Committee to review the "Rules of Order" formerly submitted, and report at next meeting of Synod, with such alterations and amendments as may be deemed necessary, with the view of having the same finally considered and adopted.

Respectfully submitted.

(Signed) DAVID COUTTS.

Overture adopted.

Committee on Rules.

The Overture was adopted, and Messrs. Coutts, Dick, and Fraser, were appointed, in terms thereof, a Committee, with instructions to revise the *ad interim* Rules of Order, and to report a draft of Rules for regulating the business of Synod, at the first Sederunt, next meeting.

Resolution respecting the Sabbath.

Read and received a Resolution from the Committee of the Sabbath Reformation Society of Kingston.

The Synod, referring to their former action on the Sabbath question, agreed to renew the recommendation of last year, "that all ministers direct the attention of their congregations, by special sermon, as soon as may be, to this vital question;" and instructed the Clerk to acknowledge the receipt of the Resolution above referred to.

Report of Committee on Clergy Reserves and Rectories.

Mr. Ormiston reported, from a Committee to draw up a Memorial or Resolutions on the Clergy Reserves and Rectories, to the following tenor, viz:

Resolved, 1. That whereas, a certain member of the British Government, holding an office closely connected with this Province, is reported to have stated, that the Established Church of England is also the Established Church of the Colonies, the Synod takes this opportunity of publicly dissenting from said statement, and of declaring that, in the Colonies of Great Britain, no Church has ever been recognised, by law, as the established Church: That, on the contrary, attempts to give exclusive privileges to the Church of England, or to any other sect, have been found injurious to the connexion between them and the Mother Country, and would, in the opinion of this Court, be followed by a similar result in Canada; And that, as they believe a Parliamentary Church to be without foundation in the Word of God and essentially different from the Church of Jesus Christ, they are persuaded that any endeavour, on the part of the British Government, to thrust such a Church on this Province, would be destructive to the interests of true religion, as well as to the temporal peace and prosperity of the country.

2. That this Synod admits, with regret, that, in the Clergy Reserve Lands and the Rectories, there are some of the elements of an Established Church amongst us, but takes this opportunity, also, of declaring them to be contrary to the principles of the Word of God and of this Church, and the general wishes of the people of this country, and that it is still our determination to prosecute every lawful means to have them abolished.

3. That this Synod begs to call the attention of the Congregations under its care to the Resolutions adopted at last stated meeting of Synod, and requests them to carry them out in a spirit of Christian wisdom, and a firm determination to maintain the principles of this Church.

4. That, as the settlement of the Clergy Reserves, by the Act of 1840, has proved unsatisfactory to those who have pecuniary interest in them, as well as to all others, this Synod is of opinion that said Act ought to be repealed and the whole question left to the disposal of the Legislature of this Province; and the Synod takes this method of calling the attention of the Ministers and Members of this Church to this important subject.

Resolutions adopted.

The Resolutions were considered seriatim, and with slight alterations were unanimously adopted.

Order on.

Ordered that the Resolutions be printed in the Minutes—that a copy be furnished to the Editor of the *Canadian Presbyterian Magazine*, and other leading papers, in order to publication; and that 1000 copies be printed separately, to be supplied to Clerks of Presbyteries, for distribution as widely as possible throughout their bounds.

Report Committee of Bills and Overture.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported a paper marked XII., being an appeal from a decision of the Presbytery of Toronto, in the case of Mr. Ure; also a paper marked XIII., being an Overture from Mr. Thornton, and recommended that those papers be considered.

Mr. Thornton's Overture.

Took up Mr. Thornton's Overture of the following tenor, viz.:

That inasmuch as there has long been experienced a deficiency in supply of Books suitable to the wants of our people, especially of those exhibiting the principles of the United Presbyterian Church, and as there is

no reason why this deficiency may not be supplied, it is hereby respectfully overtured that this Synod take this important subject into consideration; and as it is believed that a Book Depot, under proper regulations, would best meet the case; and in order to prepare for a judicious adoption of some course of this kind, it is further overtured that a Committee of Synod be appointed, to make all needful enquiries into the subject, and to correspond with the Board of Missions in Scotland regarding it. And further, that in the meantime this Synod do hereby express their entire confidence in the integrity of the Rev. Charles Fletcher, one of the ministers, disabled from preaching, and now engaged as a Bookseller in the City of Toronto, and most cordially recommend him to the Board of Missions, and through them to their Booksellers and Publishers in Scotland, as a trustworthy and deserving person; and that from his knowledge of the country, and central position, he would be a very proper medium through whom the wants of the Congregations might meanwhile be supplied, so far as arrangements can be made.

All which is respectfully submitted.

(Signed) R. H. Thornton.

Heard Mr. Thornton in support of the Overture.

Overture adopted. After consideration it was unanimously agreed that the Overture be adopted, and it was adopted accordingly; and

Committee appointed. Messrs. Thornton, Kennedy, and Waddell, were appointed a Committee to carry out the object specified therein.

Committee of Distribution. Reappointed the Committee for the distribution of Preachers.

Committee of arrangements for Theo. Hall. Agreed that the Committee already appointed to consult with the Professor of Theology as to the literary course to be pursued by Students of Divinity, be further instructed, and they are hereby instructed to meet with the Professor on his arrival, as suggested in his own letter, to assist him in making the necessary arrangements for the opening of the Theological Hall; on motion, the Moderator, the Rev. Dr. Ferrier, was added to the Committee.

Dr. Ferrier added to.

Next Meeting of Synod. Appointed next meeting of Synod to be held in the City of Toronto, on Wednesday after the second Sabbath of June, 1853.

Letter to Jamaica. Mr. Thornton, from the Committee appointed at last meeting of Synod, reported the draft of a letter to the Missionaries in Jamaica.

Letter approved. Received the Report, approved of the Committee's diligence, and instructed them to transmit the letter, with all convenient speed, to the brethren in Jamaica.

Instruct to transmit.

Adjourned, to meet at 2 o'clock.

X. SEDERUNT.

Toronto, Tuesday,
June 22, 1852, 2 *o'clock, P.M.*

The Synod met and was constituted by the Rev. Andrew Ferrier, D.D.

The Roll was called, and the minutes of last Sederunt, were read and sustained.

Mr. Greig received. Mr. Patrick Greig, a licentiate of the United Presbyterian Church, just arrived from Scotland, presented credentials from the Secretary of the Board of Missions, and from the Presbytery of Kirkaldy, of a very satisfactory kind.

Mr. Greig was unanimously and cordially received as a preacher of this Church.

Report of Committee of Bills and Overture. The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported a paper marked XIV., in the following terms, viz:

Overture in regard to the suppression of Intemperance.

Overture. That the undersigned members of Synod request this Reverend Court to adopt the following Resolutions as their deliverance on the above important subject, as peculiarly called for at the present crisis.

1. That we behold with regret and alarm the devastating influences of intemperance throughout the country, and the numerous instances in which it brings dishonour on the cause of Christ, even through those who bear his name.

2. That it gives this Court pleasure to learn that an important movement is now on foot throughout the united Province of Canada, with a view to obtain the interposition of the Legislature, to the extent of prohibiting the manufacture and sale of intoxicating drinks within its bounds, excepting under certain salutary limitations, and that that movement has hitherto been attended with unexpected and gratifying success.

3. That as it is of the highest importance that the United Presbyterian Church should lend the full weight of their sanction to said movement, they recommend to sessions and congregations to give it their zealous aid and co-operation, by the adoption of such measures, in their respective localities, as shall appear best fitted to secure the contemplated and desired object.

All which is respectfully overtured.

(Signed) William Taylor, D.D.
Robert Thornton,
William Aitken,
James Skinner.

Overture adopted. The Overture was unanimously adopted, and the Synod did, and do resolve in terms thereof.

Mr. Ure's case. Took up the protest and appeal of George Penman Ure, against the decision of the Presbytery of Toronto, in a case of protest and appeal against a decision of the Session of Toronto congregation, refusing to ordain him to the office of an elder in that congregation.

Read the minutes of the Presbytery of Toronto in relation to the case, and containing their decision. Read Mr. Ure's protest against the decision of Presbytery. Read also Mr. Ure's protest and appeal against the decision of Session.—Read also the records of the Session of Toronto congregation in relation to the case of Mr. Ure.

Heard Mr. Ure in support of his protest and appeal.

Heard also Messrs. Dick, Coutts, and Pringle, in defence of the Presbytery. Heard Mr. Bell and Mr. Jennings on behalf of the Session of Toronto congregation. Heard Mr. Ure in reply.

The parties were then removed.

Motion one. It was moved by Mr. Ormiston, seconded by Mr. Duff,

That the Synod sustain the protest and appeal, but find that circumstances have arisen during the management of the case, which render it inadvisable that Mr. Ure should be ordained an elder in the United Presbyterian congregation of Toronto.

Adjourned to meet at 7 o'clock.

Closed with the benediction.

XI. SEDERUNT.

TORONTO, TUESDAY,
June 22, 1852, 7 *o'clock, P. M.*

The Synod met, and was constituted by Rev. Dr. Ferrier, Moderator.

The Roll was called, and the minutes of the former Sederunt were read and sustained.

Mr. Ure's case. It was moved by Dr. Taylor, in amendment to the motion of Mr. Ormiston, seconded by Mr. Aitken,

Dr. Taylor's Amendment. Dismiss the protest and appeal; find that that there is no valid reason, in the evidence before the Court, to question the apellant's soundness in the faith, and set aside any decision of the inferior Courts, which may be thought to the contrary, but are strongly of opinion that his admission to the office of ruling elder in the United Presbyterian congregation of Toronto is inexpedient and inadvisable.

Amendment carried. The amendment being put to vote was carried unanimously, and the Synod did, and do resolve in terms thereof.

Order for Printing. Ordered that 500 copies of the minutes be printed for the use of ministers and sessions.

Ordered that 100 copies of Forms for Presbyterial Statistics be printed, and be by the Clerk distributed to the several Presbyteries. And that forms for congregational statistics, be also printed at the discretion of the Clerk.

French Canadian Miss. Society. Remunerat'n for collections. On motion it was agreed to renew the recommendation of Synod, that collections be made by congregations under inspection, for the French Canadian Missionary Society.

Deputation to Congregational Union. The Rev. Messrs. Hogg and Dick were, and are hereby appointed a Deputation to convey the friendly and fraternal salutations of this Synod to the Congregational Union of Canada West, at their meeting next year.

Thanks to Toronto Congregation. The thanks of the Synod were given to the Session, Managers and Congregation of Toronto, for the excellent accommodation furnished by them for this meeting.

Paid Doorkeeper £1 10s. Ordered that the sum of £1 10s., be paid to the Church officer for his services at this Session.

Delayed all other causes.

After singing Psalm cxxii. 7–9, the Synod closed with the benediction.

ANDREW FERRIER, MODERATOR.
WILLIAM FRASER, SYNOD CLERK.

APPENDIX.

REPORT OF MISSIONS' COMMITTEE.

ADOPTED BY SYNOD AND ENJOINED TO BE PRINTED.

The proceedings of your Committee, during the past year, do not present anything of special interest or importance. Little has occurred at their meetings but the consideration of applications made for supplement of stipend. In all cases, these have been regularly transmitted through the Presbytery in which the applying Congregation was situated; but, in some instances, your Committee have deemed it prudent and requisite, before meeting the applications, to request, through the Presbytery, farther information than was at first communicated. They have done so, not from any desire to make the members of a weak Congregation feel their weakness, but because they were anxious to know whether they were exerting themselves according to the ability which God has given them, and because they realised the responsibility of the trust which was committed to them, when they were appointed to dispense of the liberality of foreign Christian friends, for the support of Gospel ordinances in this new land—our adopted country. Your Committee must state that they have been duly supported by Presbyteries, when they were desirous of obtaining additional information respecting the circumstances and ability of applying Congregations.

During the past year, nine Congregations have received supplement, to a larger or smaller amount, out of the Fund. The sums granted vary from £50 Currency to £25. Some of the Congregations have been receiving aid for a considerable time: it is the wish of your Committee to see the members of such as are at all able putting forth a more determined effort for the support of the Gospel among them—taking the position of independence of foreign assistance, and thus making way for those congregations that are too few in numbers and too weak in ability to maintain a minister among them, to come upon the Fund, that they may be encouraged to apply for a Pastor, from the prospect of being helped to support him,—and that more resources may be at disposal for sending the Gospel into the remote and distant parts of the country.

But few Preachers have been labouring among our various congregations during the past year. Your Committee hope to be able, shortly, to forward such representations of our wants and wishes to the Mission Board, in Scotland, as will awaken a greater interest, on their part, in our behalf, and call forth their endeavours to incite young men, who have been licensed at home to preach the Gospel, to come out to Canada and labour in our spiritually-destitute localities, peopled with their own countrymen and kinsfolk, and which present the aspect of fields ripe unto the harvest. Five Preachers have drawn upon the Mission Funds—some for a small and others for a very large amount: altogether, the sum of £233 1s. 3d. has been expended upon Preachers. Your Committee think that much might have been raised among the vacancies which had

the benefit of their services: that individual members and adherents of our Church, in places where only occasional sermon is heard, are not fully sensible of their duty to contribute cheerfully and liberally, when a Preacher does appear among them, excusing themselves till they procure a settled Pastor; and this may be one reason why the Lord of the harvest, who weighs the efforts of his professed people against their ability, may be withholding a greater supply of labourers, their services not being duly appreciated, if we may judge of the way in which they are remunerated. A letter has been sent to the Clerk of each Presbytery, calling attention to the fact that vacancies are doing very little for the Preachers who are appointed to them, but we are not able to say whether Presbyteries have taken any action in the matter. Perhaps it would be well if the statistics of vacancies were included regularly in the annual returns, as well as those of settled congregations. Vacancies would have thus presented to themselves the actual extent of their endeavours, and might be incited to greater activity and faithfulness, on beholding its smallness, and understanding that they had a place among the Churches and were expected to exert themselves.

Mr. Andrew Kennedy has been labouring, with his usual diligence, in the bounds of the London Presbytery. A Report of his labors has been transmitted to the Committee by that Presbytery, who characterize it as very interesting, and add that it was highly approved when read to them. The same Presbytery have transmitted a Report of the labours of Mr. John Frazer, Catechist, from 1st October, 1851, till 31st March, 1852, in the Townships of Hibbert, Fullarton, Flat Creek, Biddulph, Macgillivray and Bosanquet. Mr. Frazer's heart appears to be in his work: he is an honest, patient and persevering servant, and is doing not a little good among the families in these localities. According to agreement, he is paid at the rate of £30 a-year, and he has realized £6 12s. 2d. for the half-year embraced in his Report.

A letter has been received from the Revd. Mr. Somerville, and read at a meeting of Committee held on 16th September last, earnestly requesting that information be communicated to the Mission Board, in Scotland, of the wants and prospects of the Church in Canada, and such descriptive accounts of particular localities as may be thought interesting. According to instructions given to the Convener, letters were sent to the different Presbyteries, acquainting them with this desire, and referring to the injunction of Synod contained on page 165 of the printed Minutes. Replies have come to hand from nearly all the Presbyteries, but they are not sufficiently full and specific: it is only of late, moreover, that they have been received, so that it was impossible for them to transmit them to the Secretary of the Mission Board in Scotland, that he might avail himself of the information they afforded, in drawing up his Report for Synod.—The Convener is at present engaged in abridging these Reports and preparing them for transmission. Although not in time for Synod, it is expected that they will reach the public through the pages of the Missionary Record, and it is hoped that they will incite a livelier concern in our state and for our prosperity among the Old-country congregations; engage the attention of Preachers, and show them that there is here room for their services, and a population that is willing to receive them for their Master's sake. Yet, your Committee would recommend earlier compliance, on the part of Presbyteries, with the instructions of Synod. As congregational statistics extend only to the close of the year, and are collected, generally, it is believed, in the month of January or February, could they not be forwarded to the Convener of Committe in season to be sent to Mr. Somerville, so that he might avail himself of the latest information in preparing his annual Report for Synod?

It is recommended to supplemented congregations that they regularly forward their statistics. In general, their petitions come certified by Presbytery, but the members of Committee, realizing their distinct responsibility, are anxious to know, from distinct and positive accounts, whether members of congregations are exerting themselves as they might, before they vote to them sums of money. And it would be well if vacancies were to furnish a half-yearly statement of the supply they have received and the sums paid to Preachers.

Your Committee would mention, that the Presbytery of Wellington have brought under their notice the destitute condition of the Owen Sound District, and recommend that it be urged upon the attention of the Board of Missions in Scotland. A report has been read of the labours of the Revd. Mr. Barrie, in that quarter. He has travelled many miles and borne much fatigue, instituting inquiries as he went along, respecting the means of grace that were possessed and the encouragement that was likely to be given to a Missionary, if one could be had to send among them. He speaks most favorably of the sphere of usefulness which that region presents to a man of talent, piety and energy, but adds, that, in consequence of the poverty of the people, they can be expected to do very little, in the meantime, for the support of Gospel ordinances. A member of Committee has been travelling through the same District, since Mr. Barrie fulfilled his appointment, and confirms all that his Report states. It is the impression of your Committee that it would be of the utmost importance to have a labourer specially appointed for Mission work in the Owen Sound District, and, with your concurrence, they will urge this upon the Mission Board, that they may endeavour to obtain one and support him, who shall enter upon that field, bringing the announcements of the Gospel to its population, and thus prevent them, through the blessing of God, from sinking into that state of indifference and ungodliness which may be expected if there is none to take an interest in their spiritual well-being.

Your Committee would conclude, by referring to the death of one of their members, who was always present at their meetings, and took the most lively interest in the prosperity of the Church—the Revd. Mr. Roy, of St. George. He has ceased from his labors, and passed, it is hoped, from the Church militant to the Church triumphant. No more shall we have his presence in any of our courts, for the Lord of the vineyard has called him away from active duty in the present administration of his grace. Those who remain and with whom he took counsel, would regard his death as a call to renewed diligence and to the strictest faithfulness; for, the day of account, which has passed to him, is approaching to them. May they be found in peace of Christ, at his coming!

ROBERT TORRANCE, *Convener.*

STATISTICAL REPORT

Of the United Presbyterian Congregation of *in the*
Presbytery of *for the year*
ending on the 31st of December, 185 .

☞ One copy to be kept by the Congregation, and another delivered to the Presbytery.

I. Number of Organized Congregations,.....
II. Number of Stations within bounds,.....
III. Average attendance,.....
IV. Number of Members added,.....
V. Number of Members removed,.....
VI. Number of Members on the Roll,.....
VII. Number of Baptisms,.....
VIII. Number in Religious Classes,.....
IX. Number of Members attending Prayer Meetings,....
X. Number of Volumes in Libraries,.....
XI. Number of Churches,.....
XII. Is Property Deeded?.....
XIII. Amount of Congregational Debt,.....
XIV. Total Income,.....
XV. Expenditure on—

1. Stipend,.....£
2. Church Property,.....
3. Theological Fund,.....
4. Synod and Presbytery Funds,..
5. Synod's Missions,.....
6. General Missions.....
7. Contributions to the Poor,.....
8. Incidental Expenses,.....

Minister.

Clerk of Session.

Clerk of Congregation.

MINUTES

OF

THE SEVENTEENTH SESSION

OF

THE SYNOD

OF THE

United Presbyterian Church in Canada,

HELD IN TORONTO, JUNE 15—23, 1853.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE SYNOD.

TORONTO:
PRINTED BY JAMES CLELAND, YONGE STREET.
1853.